
Notice of Intent to Repatriate Cultural Items in the Possession of The Heard Museum, Phoenix, Arizona.

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

Notice is hereby given under the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990 of the intent to repatriate a cultural item in the possession of The Heard Museum that meets the definitions of "sacred object" under Section 2 of the act.

The item consists of a wooden hoop 28.5 cm in diameter wrapped with green painted hide to which are attached eagle feathers, a long strip of animal fur, glass beads, and the carcasses of birds of prey, one of which appears to be a bald eagle. The birds' beaks have been painted yellow and red.

The object was donated to The Heard Museum in 1978 as part of the donation of the Fred Harvey Fine Arts Collection, of which it had been a part. No information has been obtained relative to the acquisition of the item by the Fred Harvey Fine Arts Collection. The original museum records describe the object as "227BE, Scalp Ring, Crow."

In January, 1993 the Museum supplied an inventory of its holdings identified as "Crow" to authorized representatives of the Crow Nation who subsequently visited the Museum and examined the collection. At that time, this item was identified as likely to be a sacred object. The ring was identified as having been once owned by Chief Two Leggings of the River Crows, and used in a ceremony encompassing a full band. Subsequently, the Crow Nation has requested repatriation of the item from The Heard Museum in a letter dated April 22, 1993. The Museum's Collections Committee has reviewed the request, and will recommend that the Board of Trustees respond positively to the request. Authorities of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service have been contacted regarding applicability of Federal endangered species statutes to this transfer.

Representatives of any other tribe that believes itself to be culturally affiliated with this item should contact Martin Sullivan, Director, The Heard Museum, 22 E. Monte Vista, Phoenix, AZ 85004, telephone: (602) 252-8840 before July 29, 1993. Repatriation of the item to the Crow Nation may begin after that date if no additional claimants come forward.

Dated: June 16, 1993

Francis P. McManamon

Departmental Consulting Archeologist
Chief, Archeological Assistance Division
[FR Doc. 93-15223 Filed 6-28-93; 8:45am]

BILLING CODE 4310-70-F